

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a cap including an aperture and configured to allow an electron to pass through the aperture; and
a moveable cover adjacent to the aperture, wherein the cover is configured to lie along the electron path during at least one point in time and the cover is configured to move in a plane substantially orthogonal to a path followed by the electron.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover assembly further comprises means for displacing the cover.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover assembly further comprises a spring.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the spring comprises stainless steel.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the cover assembly further comprises means for releasing the spring.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the cover assembly further comprises a material comprising an end, wherein the end is fastened to the spring.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the material is configured to release the spring when a sufficient amount of an electrical current is passed through the material.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover assembly comprises an actuator.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover assembly further comprises a cover guide in contact with the cover.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover comprises stainless steel.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover comprises an insulator.

12. (currently amended) An electron gun comprising:
a cap assembly comprising a cap, a cap aperture, a cover, and a spring, wherein:
the cover overlies the cap aperture during at least one point in time; and
the spring comprises a first end attached to the cover and a second end attached to the cap, the spring configured to move the cover in a plane substantially orthogonal to an electron path defined through the cap aperture; and

a focus electrode spaced apart and electrically insulated from the cap assembly and comprising a focus aperture in alignment with the cap aperture.

13. (Original) The electron gun of claim 12, wherein at least a portion of the cap assembly comprises stainless steel.

14. (Original) The electron gun of claim 12, wherein the cover comprises stainless steel.

15. (Original) The electron gun of claim 12, wherein the cover comprises an insulator.

16. (Original) The electron gun of claim 12, wherein the cap further comprises a cover guide in contact with the cover.

Claims 17-26 (Cancelled)